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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(D)

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ACTION EB-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CIAE-00	CTME-00	DODE-00	WHA-00	SRPP-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3549
INFO CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
NSC WASHDC
USCINCSO MIAMI FL
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/10/01
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PAGE 02 CARACA 02977 01 OF 03 080502Z
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ECON
SUBJECT: CHAVEZ LAYS OUT HIS VISION

CLASSIFIED BY FREDERICK C. COOK, DCM. REASONS 1.5 (B) AND
(D)

SUMMARY

1. (C)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ALAN H FLANIGAN
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 7 OCT 2021
DATE/CASE ID: 11 JUL 2007 200504156

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END SUMMARY.

CHAVEZ PRESENTS HIS "ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLAN"

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2. (U) PRESIDENT CHAVEZ ADDRESSED THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2001 TO PRESENT HIS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN. HE SPOKE FOR THREE HOURS ON A VARIETY OF THEMES, ALL INTENDED TO CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS TO REDEFINE THE SCOPE OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DISCUSSION IN VENEZUELA TO CONSIDERATION OF HOW BEST TO IMPLEMENT THE BOLIVARIAN REVOLUTION. CHAVEZ SPECIFICALLY DID NOT DISCUSS ANY DETAILS OF THE ECONOMIC PLAN, BUT RATHER LIMITED HIS DISCUSSION TO THE GOALS OF THE REVOLUTION, THE FIVE AXES OF THE REVOLUTION, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF VARIOUS NEW MINISTRIES. (THE ACTUAL PLAN, SOME 162 PAGES LONG, HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE INTERNET AT WWW.MPD.GOV.VE.)

FOES OF THE REVOLUTION BEWARE

3. (U) DISMISSING THE PREVIOUS 40 YEARS AS "SO-CALLED DEMOCRACY" AND CITING GARCIA-MARQUEZ'S BOOK, "THE GENERAL IN HIS LABYRINTH," CHAVEZ STATED THAT BEFORE THE 1992 COUP VENEZUELA WAS IN A LABYRINTH, WITH A DOMINANT RULING CLASS, THE PEOPLE IN THE STREETS, AND THE MILITARY DIVIDED. WITH THE FOUNDING OF THE MBR-200 (COMMENT: NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH CHAVEZ'S MVP PARTY) THE "SOCIAL FORCE" PREVIOUSLY REPRESSED, WAS UNLEASHED. CHAVEZ SPENT ABOUT A THIRD OF HIS SPEECH PUTTING THE NATION ON NOTICE. THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WAS WARNED THAT THEY WERE TO PASS ONLY REVOLUTIONARY LAWS OR RISK THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BYPASS THEM AND GO DIRECTLY TO THE PEOPLE. THE UPPER CLASSES, LIKENED TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE TITANIC WHO DID NOT SEE THE DANGER, WERE

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WARNED THAT TIMES HAD CHANGED; THEY COULD NOT OPPOSE THE
REVOLUTION. THE MEDIA AND LANDOWNERS WERE SPECIFICALLY
WARNED, THE FORMER ACCUSED OF PROVIDING TOO WILLING A
PLATFORM TO THOSE WHO WOULD UNDERMINE THE REVOLUTION, AND
THE LATTER WITH ACTION BY THE ARMED FORCES SHOULD THEY FAIL
TO SURRENDER LANDS. (COMMENT: THIS IS ALL VINTAGE CHAVEZ.
END COMMENT.)

LAND REFORM

4. (C) ON LAND REFORM, CHAVEZ REPEATED HIS POSITION THAT
PRIVATE PROPERTY IS NOT SACRED; THAT LANDLORDS MUST PROVE
THEIR TITLE TO THE LAND OR GIVE IT UP; THAT LAND CANNOT BE
ALLOWED TO LIE IDLE - LANDLORDS SHOULD VOLUNTARILY
SURRENDER IDLE LAND; THAT THE ARMED FORCES WILL ASSIST
PEASANTS IN TAKING AND HOLDING LAND, AND LANDLORDS ARM
THEMSELVES AT THEIR PERIL.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 CARACAS 002977

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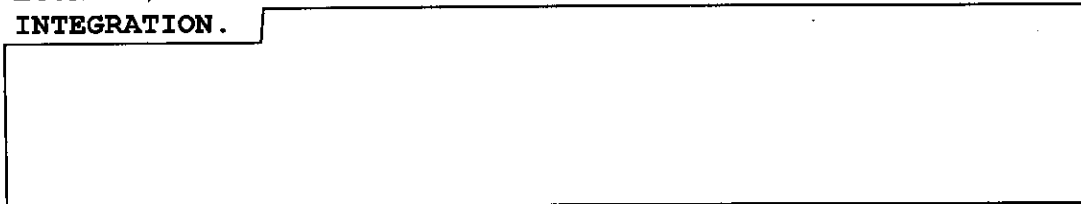
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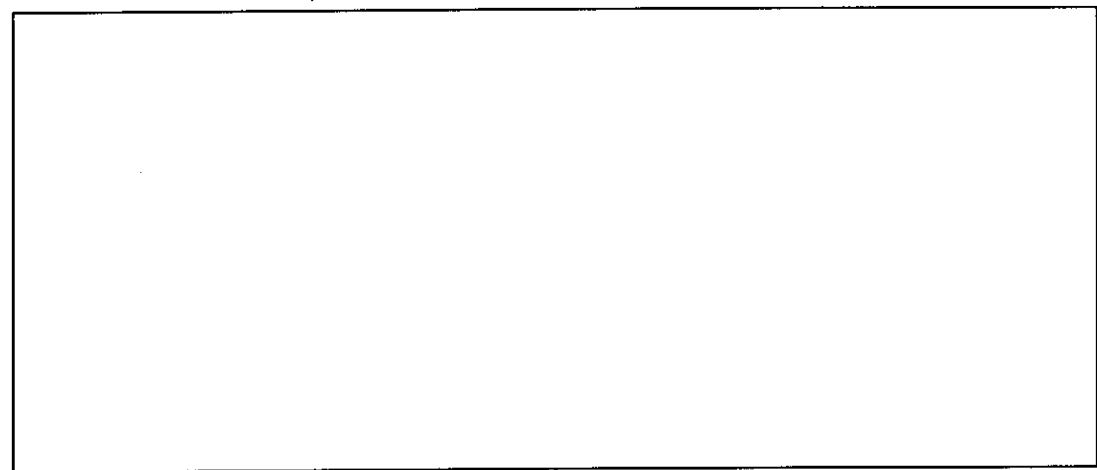
MINISTERIAL REORGANIZATION

5. (C) CHAVEZ ALSO ANNOUNCED A PLETHORA OF NEW LAWS AND MINISTRIES. THESE ARE TO INCLUDE A "MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND; A MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRY; A MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION; A MINISTRY OF STATE FOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES; A MINISTRY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL ECONOMY; AND A MINISTRY OF STATE FOR (INTERNATIONAL) INTEGRATION.



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AMONG THE NEW LAWS, CHAVEZ ANNOUNCED A LAW OF PARTICIPATORY CITIZENRY, TO PUT AN END TO "REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY," TO DEVELOP "PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY," AND TO CONSOLIDATE THE BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED A NEW ORGANIC LAW OF THE ARMED FORCES, TO CEMENT THE CIVIL/MILITARY UNION.



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THE INTERNATIONAL VISION

7. (U) ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT, CHAVEZ DENOUNCED
TERRORISM AND PRAISED U.S. PRUDENCE, NOTING THAT HE
EXPECTED NO LESS. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT GIVE THE U.S. A
BLANK CHECK, BUT ALSO SAID THAT NONE HAD BEEN REQUESTED. HE
STRESSED THAT VENEZUELA HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.
BUT THEN WENT ON TO SAY THE SAME OF SEVERAL OTHER NATIONS,
BEFORE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING IRAN, IRAQ, LIBYA, AND
ALGERIA. HE DENIED THAT HE HAD EVER SEEN ANY EVIDENCE OF
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THEIR SUPPORT OF TERROR THAT WOULD JUSTIFY THEIR BEING
"ERASED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH." ABSENT SUCH EVIDENCE,
HE DECLARED, VENEZUELA WOULD NOT LESSEN ITS TIES WITH THESE
NATIONS. HE DID NOT MENTION CUBA OR AFGHANISTAN. ON
COLOMBIA HE MERELY SAID THAT VENEZUELA HAD TO MAINTAIN
RELATIONS WITH THE FARC IN ORDER TO MEDIATE IN COLOMBIA.

COMMENT

8. (C)

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9. (C) B1

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